

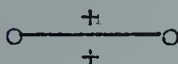
WELL-BEING BOARD OF HEALTH

21 AUG 1953

DOLGELLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL  
HEALTH REPORT  
For the Year 1952

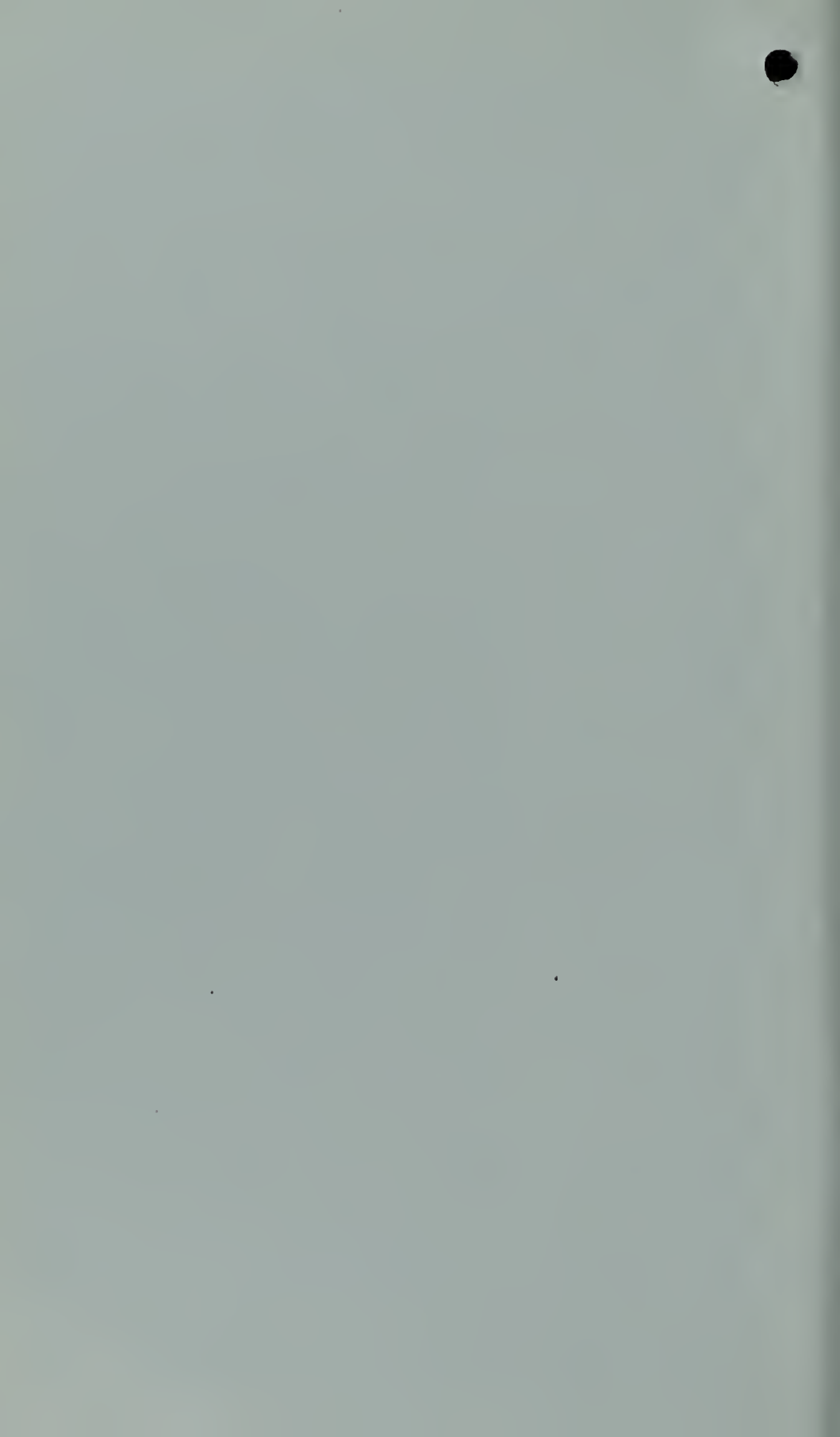


Medical Officer of Health:

EVAN RICHARDS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:

IDWAL ROBERTS, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.



DOLGELLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the District Medical  
Officer of Health for the year 1952

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
DOLGELLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

The following is the Health Report for the year ended 31st December, 1952.

I should first like to thank Dr. W. F. Gapper, County Medical Officer of Health who acted as District Medical Officer of Health from the time Dr. Evan Williams left until I took up the post for his kind assistance at all times.

The Registrar General's Mid-Year estimate of population was 9483, an increase of 158 on the previous year.

The number of live births was 91, i.e. 6 fewer than in 1951 and the number of deaths, 99, was 9 less than in the previous year.

The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was half that of 1951 but new notifications remained at the same level. The response to the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit was encouraging but leaves no ground for complacency. Regrettably, the Unit did not this year visit the Slate Quarrying districts of Dinas Mawddwy and Corris owing to the incompatibility of electricity supplies but it is hoped that a suitable unit will be provided for the next tour.

There were 56 new notifications of infectious diseases during the year, the bulk (52) being

measles. No cases of food poisoning were reported, but in view of the general increase in the number of cases of gastro enteric infections, there is need for vigilance over food handling practices. Owing to the scattered nature of the district, it would be difficult to conduct a clean food campaign but visits to food premises coupling advice and supervision are desirable.

There was steady progress in the housing field, 19 new houses being completed in 1952, bringing the total completed since the War to 111 as opposed to 8 in pre-war years.

In view of the increasing cost of new house construction, I should like to draw the attention of the Council to the Croydon Experiment where suitable old property is bought by the Council and brought up to a reasonable standard of amenity and sanitation at a smaller cost than that of new building.

Much work has been done on Water Supplies in recent years as is shown in the Sanitary Inspector's report and schemes completed under the Hill Farming Subsidy have brought these amenities to isolated homesteads.

The extension of water supply should lead the Council to investigate the possibility of also extending Sewage Disposal in the cases recommended in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

Refuse Disposal in the area presents difficulties, as is shown by the mileage travelled (320 miles per week for 2729 houses) but the direct labour scheme is working very efficiently.

Another satisfactory service is that provided by the Joint Pest Committee and it is

ratifying to see the co-operation that exists between the three Local Authorities.

I wish to thank Mr. Idwal Roberts, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor for his co-operation in the compilation of this Report.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.

District Medical  
Officer of Health.

SECTION A.GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District in Acres	150,128
Rateable Value ... ..	... £28,408
Population (Registrar General's figures) ... ..	9,483
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£111:12:2
Number of inhabited houses (according to the Rate Books) at end of year ... ..	2,729

COMPARABILITY FACTORS:

Births ... ..	1.38
Deaths ... ..	0.94

VITAL STATISTICS

Nett Births (Live and Still)	91
Births (Live) ... ..	89
Births (Still) ... ..	2

<u>LIVE BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION</u>	9.38
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LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	32	57
Legitimate	31	54
Illegitimate	1	3

Illegitimate Birth Rate (Percentage of Total Live Births)	4.30%
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DEATHS:

Total Number	99
Males - 52	Females - 47
Rate per 1,000 population	10.44
1951 figures	11.71

# DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR:

Total	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
			<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
Total	...	...	-		-	
Legitimate	...	...	-		-	
Illegitimate	...	...	-		-	
Infant Mortality (Rate per 1,000						
Live Births)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
1951 figures		...	...	...	...	72.16
Deaths of Legitimate Infants Mortality						
(per 1,000 Live Births)	...	...				Nil
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants Mortality						
(per 1,000 Live Births)	...	...				Nil

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS:

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	Nil	Nil
Legitimate	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-

## MATERNAL MORTALITY:

Deaths connected with childbirth and pregnancy	...	...	...	...	1
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## DEATHS FROM CANCER:

Total	- 16	
Rate per 1,000 population		1.69

## DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS:

Total	- 2	
Rate per 1,000 population		0.21



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

#### (1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY:

One Medical Officer of Health.

One Sanitary Inspector holding appointment of Sanitary Inspector/Surveyor.

#### (2) LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Water analysis (Chemical) carried out by the Public Analyst, Chester.

Water (bacteriological) carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.

Milk (tests for cleanliness, for keeping quality and for tuberculosis) carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Aberystwyth.

No charge is made on the local authority for these tests.

#### (3) AMBULANCE FACILITIES:

Three Ambulances stationed at Dolgelley. Transport for sick cases can easily and readily be obtained.

#### (4) INFANT WELFARE CLINICS:

Held at: Dyffryn Ardudwy - once a month.

Dolgelley - Wesleyan Chapel vestry every 2 weeks.

Abergynolwyn - at the Aelwyd building once a month.

Corris - at the Institute once a month.

#### (5) ANTE NATAL CLINICS:

At Dolgelley Hospital - two a month.



(6) ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC:

At Dolgelley Hospital - two a month.

(7) TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC:

Held at the Dolgelley Hospital twice a month.

(8) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION:

Arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health. Immunisation of babies and young children carried out at the Primary Schools.

(9) HOSPITALS:

One fully equipped hospital at Dolgelley.

(10) INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

Total number of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the

year	...	...	...	...	...	56
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Bacillary Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	52
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	1
Benign Tertian Malaria (relapse)	...	...	...	...	...	1

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES:

Pulmonary: Total - 8  
Males - 5 Females - 3  
Non-Pulmonary: Total - 1  
Males - Nil Females - 1

TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS:

Pulmonary: Total - 1

Males - 1 Females - Nil

Non-Pulmonary: Total - 1

Males - 1 Females - Nil

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1952  
IN AGE GROUPS

Age Periods	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	Respir- atory		Non- Respir- atory		Respir- atory		Non- Respir- atory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
2								
5	1							
10								
15		1						
20								
25	1	2					1	
35	1			1				
45	1							
55	1				1			
65								
75								

# CAUSES OF DEATH 1952

	M	F
Tuberculosis Pulmonary ... ..	1	-
"          Other ... ..	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	-	-
Cancer Stomach ... ..	6	3
"    Lung ... ..	-	-
"    Breast ... ..	-	1
"    Other sites ... ..	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	6
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	5	1
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2
Other heart diseases ... ..	6	13
Other circulatory disease ... ..	4	6
Influenza ... ..	-	-
Pneumonia ... ..	2	-
Bronchitis ... ..	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum ...	1	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	2	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	7
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	-	-
All other accidents ... ..	2	-
Suicide ... ..	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	3	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	1
	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 47

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

No action was found necessary during 1952.

GENERAL

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the district. Within the area centres were established at Llwyngwrlil and Dyffryn Ardudwy. Outside the rural area, centres were established at Barmouth, Dolgelley and Towyn.

Centres	Under 15 years		Over 15 years		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Llwyngwrlil	6	8	25	56	31	64
Dyffryn Ardudwy	-	1	21	23	21	24
Barmouth	120	93	301	444	403	537
Dolgelley	99	160	162	187	261	347
Towyn	114	127	236	219	350	346
TOTAL	-	339	389	745	1066	1318

# SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Houses - Public Health Acts	...	...	138
Houses - Housing Acts	...	...	191
Complaints investigated	...	...	26
Factories	...	...	Nil
Workshops	...	...	6
Infectious Disease Cases	...	...	Nil
Houses Disinfected	...	...	Nil
Petroleum Acts	...	...	7
Shops Acts	...	...	9
Interviews with Owners	...	...	72
Revisits to properties under notice or repair	...	...	54
Bakehouses	...	...	9
Butchers' Shops	...	...	8
Ice -Cream Premises	...	...	17
Milk Samples (Schools)	...	...	13
Water Samples:			
Local Authority	...	...	52
Private Supplies	...	...	5
Proposed Water Schemes	...	...	29
Hill Farming Schemes	...	...	31
Miscellaneous	...	...	53
Total	...	...	<hr/> 720 <hr/>
Informal Notices served	...	...	19
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	16
Statutory Notices Served, P.H.A.	...	...	Nil
Statutory Notices Served, H.A.	...	...	Nil

## SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED

Conversions into habitable dwellings ...	17
Extensions to existing dwellings...	21
Extensive repairs (including rebuilding wall or roof, etc.) ... ..	34
Reconditioning etc. (Hill Farming Schemes)	29
New Drainage Units ( do. )	29
New Water Supplies ( do. )	31
Houses connected to L.A. Water supplies	136
do. do. to L.A. Sewer schemes	102
Conversion of Pail Closets to water carriage system ... ..	82
Repaired or made fit ... ..	84
Roofs repaired ... ..	39
Floors repaired, replaced, ventilated etc.	54
Plastered walls and ceilings repaired ...	27
Windows replaced, repaired, made to open etc.	74
Food Stores or ventilated cupboards provided ... ..	39
Stairs replaced or repaired ... ..	17
Fire-grates renewed (modern type), repaired or renewed ... ..	44
Chimney stacks renewed or repaired ...	16
External walls repointed ... ..	31
Eaves gutters renewed, repaired etc. ...	57
Dangerous walls repaired ... ..	7

### DRAINS, WATER CLOSETS AND REFUSE ACCOMMODATION:

Obstructed drains cleaned ... ..	17
Obstructed W.C's cleaned ... ..	9
Drains repaired or reconstructed ...	21
Inspection covers renewed ... ..	14
W.C. basins renewed ... ..	9

### Other Nuisances:

Smoke ... ..	Nil
Animals kept (improperly) ... ..	4
Accumulations ... ..	7

# HOUSING PROGRESS

	Year	Tradit- ional	Swedish	Total
Llanegryn (Pre-war)		8	-	8
Dyffryn	1945	4	-	4
do.	1947	-	8	8
Abergynolwyn	1947	12	-	12
Brithdir	1948	-	4	4
Llwyngwril	1949	30	-	30
Talybont	1950	4	-	4
Bontddu	1951	8	-	8
Taicynhaeaf	1951	3	-	3
Dyffryn	1951	11	-	11
do.	1952	7	-	7
Rhoslefain	1952	12	-	12
		99	12	111
Llanfachreth (under construction)		7	-	7
Llanelltyd (under construction)		11	-	11

## PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSES

Under construction at beginning of year	Licenses issued	Completed	Balance
8	3	9	2



# WATER SUPPLIES

Parish	Village	Supply S	Treat- ment.					Bact. Exam.		Connections In S.P.	Remarks
			I	C	F	Ch	Sa	U			
<u>Brithdir and Islawdref</u>	Brithdir	S	-	-	-	LC	1	-	21	-	New scheme completed during year.
	Pennaenpool										Proposed extension from Dolgelley U.D.C. supply.
<u>Llanymawddwy</u>	Llanymawddwy	S	-	-	-	LC	4	-	7	-	New scheme completed during year.
<u>Llanfachreth</u>	Llanfachreth	S	-	-	-	LC	2	-	27	-	New scheme completed during year.
<u>Llanegryn</u>	Rhydymain										Proposed new scheme.
	Llanegryn	-	I	-	-	-	5	-	81	7	Proposal in hand for supplementary scheme.
<u>Llangelynin</u>	Llvyngrwil	S	-	C	F	-	3	1	193	9	Satisfactory water supply.
	Tonfannau	S	-	C	F	-	2	-	31	-	Satisfactory water supply.
	Rhoslefain	S	-	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	Satisfactory water supply.
	Barmouth Junction	S	-	C	F	-	6	2	34	-	Satisfactory water supply.
	Friog								12		
	Fairbourne)										
	Arthog	-	I	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	Proposed new scheme.

<u>Llanelltyd</u>	S	-	C	F	-	1	1	25	-	New scheme completed during year.
Taicynhaef	S	-	-	-	-	2	-	21	-	Satisfactory water supply.
Ganllwyd	S	-	C	F	-	2	-	17	-	Satisfactory water supply.
Dyffryn	S	-	C	F	-	3	-	271	19	Satisfactory water supply.
<u>Llanendwyn</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<u>Llanddwywe-</u>										
<u>uwch-y-graig</u>										
<u>Talyllyn</u>										
Aberllefenni.)										
Corris )	S	-	C	F	-	2	-	101	3	New scheme completed during year.
Upper Corris)										
Abergynolwyn	S	-	-	-	-	2	-	104	5	Satisfactory water supply.
Dinas Mawddwy	S	-	-	-	-	SA	3	90	-	New scheme completed during year.
<u>Llanfihangel</u>										
<u>Mallwyd</u>										
Aberangell	-	I	C	F	-	1	-	-	3	Proposed extension from Dinas Mawddwy supply.
Bontddu	S	-	-	-	-	1	1	52	2	Satisfactory water supply.
<u>Llanaber</u>										
<u>Llanddwywe-</u>										
<u>is-y-graig</u>										
Talybont	S	-	C	F	-	3	-	58	-	Supplementary scheme completed during year.

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S denotes Sufficient	F denotes Filtration	SA denotes Soda Ash
I " Insufficient	Ch " Chemical	Sa " Satisfactory
C " Chlorination	LC " Limestone Chips	U " Unsatisfactory
	S.P. denotes Stand Pipe	

# SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Parishes	Villages or Hamlets	
Brithdir and Islawrdref	Brithdir	Scattered village - cesspools only.
		Recommended that a sewerage scheme be provided.
	Penmaenpool	do.
	Dinas	Scheme prepared for submission for approval.
	Mallwyd	Scheme recommended.
	Aberangell	Scheme recommended.
	Llanymawddwy	Private provisions satisfactory.
	Llanfachreth	Scheme completed (post-war).
	Rhydymain	Scheme prepared for submission and approval.
	Llanegryn	Scheme prepared awaiting decision with the M.O. Works re Peniarth Disposal Works.
		Existing sewerage and sewage sea outfall.
	Llwyngwril	do.
	Fairbourne	do.
	Friog	Recommend extension of sewer to Fairbourne scheme.
	Llanelltyd	Scheme nearing completion.
	Ganllwyd	Scheme submitted for approval.
	Dyffryn	Scheme completed (post-war).
	Corris Isaf	
	Corris Uchaf	
	Aberllefenni	Under consideration.
	Abergynolwyn	
	Bontddu	
	Talybont	
		Scheme completed (post-war); extension in progress.
		Scheme completed (post-war).
		Recommended that a scheme be provided.
Llanfihangel		
Llanaber		
Llanddwyc-Is		

### Rivers and Streams:

There are no industries in the district to pollute the rivers and streams but there are some careless individuals who insist on throwing tins and refuse into the streams. Warning notices are posted in some localities to cease this undesirable custom but it is difficult to achieve.

### Refuse Collection:

The Council have provided a satisfactory covered lorry, the necessary staff and a number of refuse disposal sites and undertakes by direct labour the scavenging of the scattered built-up villages and houses en route throughout the 13 parishes, which involves approximately 320 miles per week. Twice weekly collections are made in the Corris, Abergynolwyn and Dyffryn areas.

### Smoke Abatement:

No action was taken in this respect during the year.

### Swimming Baths and Pools:

There are no public nor privately owned swimming baths open to the public.

### Eradication of Bugs:

No action was necessary during the year.

### Meat and Food Inspection:

No animals were slaughtered for human consumption in the area. The slaughtering is

carried out at the abattoir in the Dolgelley Urban District.

Other foodstuffs surrendered as being unfit for human consumption include the following:  
Cheese - 22 lbs; Fish - 7 cwt 42 lbs  $7\frac{3}{4}$  ozs;  
Milk - 28 ozs; Fruit - 25 lbs  $1\frac{1}{2}$  oz; Roots - 3 lbs 8 ozs; Crops - 8 lb 5 ozs; Meat - 44 lbs 12 ozs; Jam - 5 lbs.

Ice-Cream Premises:

Number of manufacturing retailers registered	...	Nil
Number of Retailers registered	...	17

Clean Food Campaign (Food and Drugs Act, 1938):

The model by-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and adopted by the Council are in operation and are having effective results.

# PESTS ACTS, 1949-1952

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All Other	Total
Inspections	103	962	553	135	1,753
Infestations:					
Major	19	202	11	10	242
Minor	-	4	38	-	42
Mice (infestation)	4	6	5	2	17
<hr/>					
Total treated	23	212	-	12	279

### Bakehouses:

These are small in number and subject to periodical inspection. They are kept clean and are limewashed or painted at intervals. There are no underground bakehouses.

### Workshops:

These are few in number and small and part occupied by the owner. The sanitary provisions are on the premises or nearby.

### Conclusion:

The year 1952 brought marked progress in the number of new houses, new water schemes, sewerage schemes, improvements with major housing repairs, reconditioning and conversion of houses under the Hill Farming Act which bring amenity to the District and a measure of satisfaction.

I am, Sirs,

Your Obedient Servant,

EVAN RICHARDS,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.

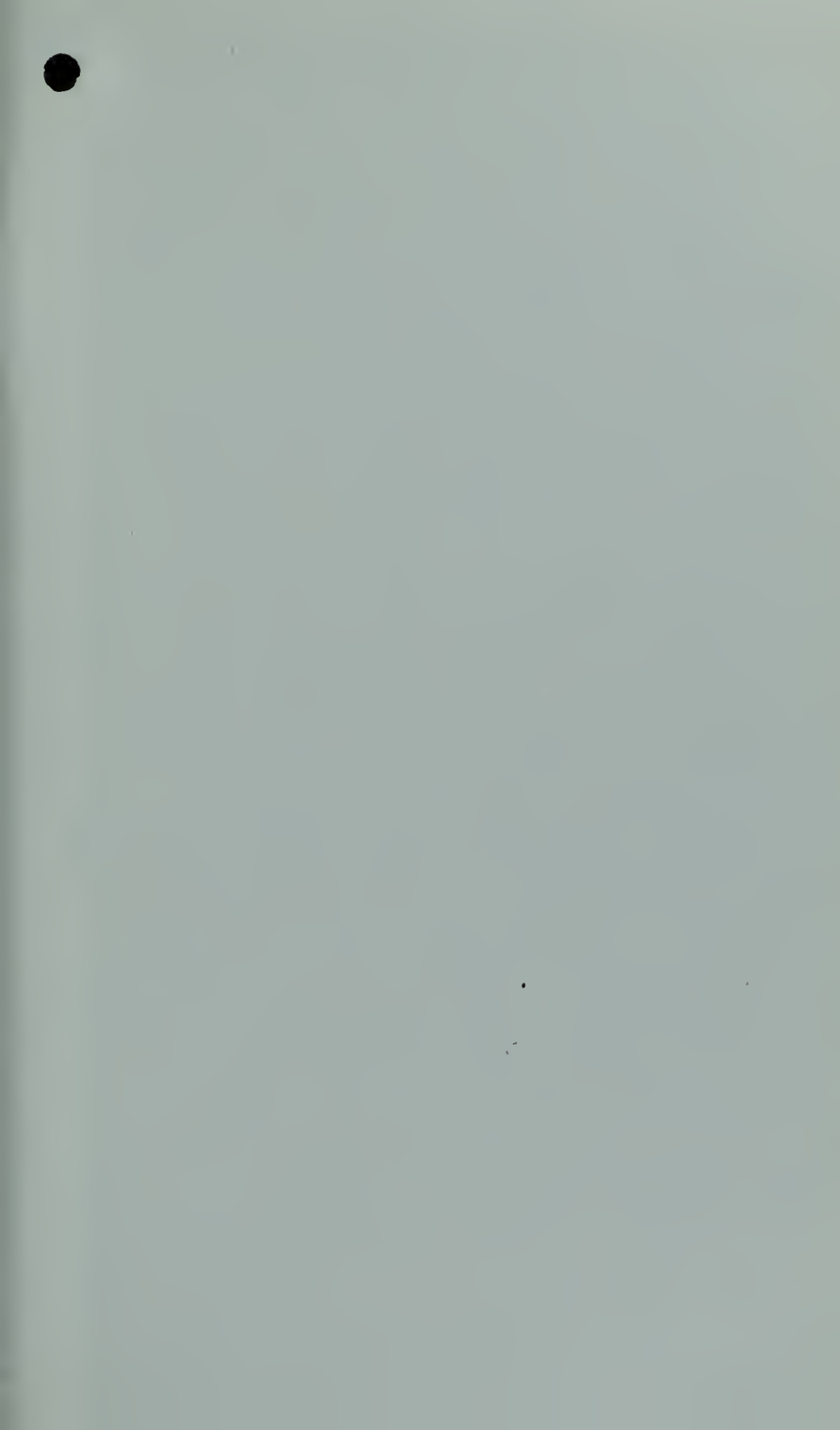
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Carlan Duplicating Service,  
Dolgeley